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1905-11-11 | Brakeman Smith Killed; Street Railway Superintendent Taggart's Son Deane Gets 600 Volts

Tags: Connecticut Valley Street Railway · Greenfield · Franklin County · Cheapside · Deerfield · Taggart · Deane P. Taggart · East Deerfield · East Deerfield Rail Yard · Cheapside Bridge · J. A. Taggart

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Work is to begin at once at Hatfield on constructing the new power line for the street railway. A gang of 15 to 20 men, furnished by Crosby and Coolidge will be put on at first and the superintendent is Mr. Parker. With good luck on weather the work will take four to six weeks, but it will be pushed through even if the weather is unfavorable.

D. P. Smith, 22, a brakeman, was killed at East Deerfield Sunday night. Smith had been roused by a call man for a night crew and boarded the switcher. The jolt of the switcher backing against some cars is supposed to have knocked him off the engine. He fell in such a manner that the wheels crushed his head. He leaves a widow and his brothers and sisters in Firthcliffe, New York.

Deane P. Taggart, son of Supt. J. A. Taggart of the Connecticut Valley Street Railway Co., got a shock of 600 volts Saturday at the south end of the Cheapside railroad bridge. Young Taggart was acting as motorman, when a trolley pole became bent. He climbed on top of the car to fix it, but without his knowledge the other trolley pole had been attached to the wire, which made the metal work of the car alive. When Taggart grasped the trolley pole a circuit was completed and he was knocked senseless to the ground. He was unconscious a few moments but is now better and no serious results are expected. The shock was enough to kill anybody with a weak heart, and his escape is considered a narrow one.

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Greenfield, Massachusetts · Sat, Nov 11, 1905
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